

#### Why are we here?

- To understand Even Start as a familycentered education program which involves parents and children
- To highlight the importance of coordination and collaboration in Even Start projects
- To review the steps in developing an Even Start grant proposal
- To discuss the competitive timeline



#### Michigan Even Start— **Quick Facts**

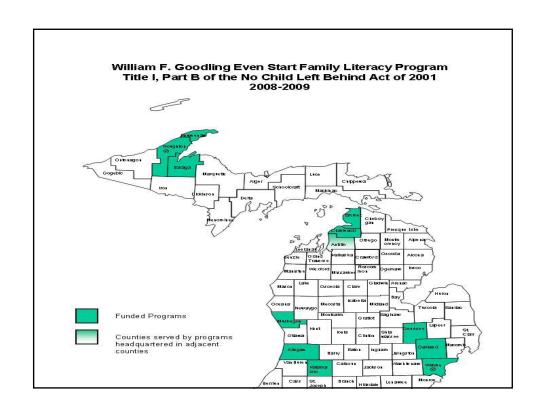
- For 2009-2010, the competitive round of applications will be due Thursday, March 20, 2009
- Federal allocation to Michigan estimated at \$2.3 million in 2009 with most recent estimate at \$2,327,324
- Approximately \$1.545 million needed for current grants
- Approximately \$643,000 available for competitive grants
- Funding is sufficient for three grants



#### 2008-2009 Projects in 4th Year of a 4-year Cycle

- Urban Programs 2● Rural Programs 1
  - Southwest Counseling Solutions/Detroit Public Schools
  - Wayne-Metro Community Action Agency/Hamtramck **Public Schools**
- Public Schools of Calumet-Laurium-Keweenaw/Keweenaw Family Resource Center





### Purpose

Help break the cycle of poverty and illiteracy by improving the educational opportunities of the nation's low income families by integrating early childhood education, adult literacy or adult basic education, and parenting education into a unified family literacy program, to be referred to as "Even Start".



#### **Family Literacy Definition Appears in**

- Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (Work Force Investment Act)
- 9101(20) of the Elementary and
  Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA)
   (No Child Left Behind Act of 2001)
- Community Services Block Grant Act



Family literacy: services provided to participants on a voluntary basis that are of sufficient intensity in terms of hours, and of sufficient duration to make sustainable changes in a family, and that integrate all of the following activities:



#### Components

- Interactive literacy activities between parents and their children.
- Training for parents regarding how to be the primary teacher of their children and full partners in the education of their children.
- Parent literacy training that leads to economic self-sufficiency.
- Age-appropriate education to prepare children for success in school and life experience.



"Family Literacy is not merely adding education or academic components together, but is the creation of a totally integrated system of instruction that ensures transfer to the home."

Policy Makers Guide to Family Literacy, National Center for Family Literacy, 1994, p 39.



#### Requirements from Statute

- Sec 1231 The program shall
- (1) Be implemented through cooperative projects that build on high-quality existing community resources to create a new range of services;
- (2) Promote the academic achievement of children and adults;
- (3) Assist children and adults from low-income families to achieve to challenging State content standards and challenging State student achievement standards; and
- (4) Use instructional programs based on scientifically based reading research and addressing the prevention of reading difficulties for children and adults, to the extent such research is available...

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# Scientifically-Based Reading Research (SBRR)

The application of rigorous, systematic, and objective procedures to obtain valid knowledge relevant to reading development, reading instruction and reading difficulties.

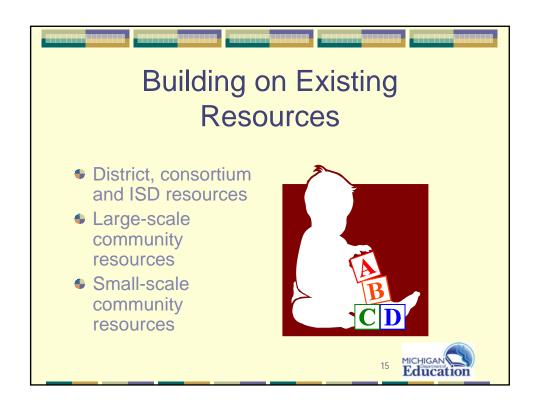
## Scientifically-Based Reading Research

- The research must
  - Employ systematic, empirical methods that draw on observation or experiment;
  - Involve rigorous data analyses that are adequate to test the stated hypotheses and justify the general conclusions drawn;

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## Scientifically-Based Reading Research

- The research must
  - Rely on measurements or observational methods that provide valid data across evaluators and observers and across multiple measurements and observations; and
  - Have been accepted by a peer-reviewed journal or approved by a panel of independent experts through a comparable rigorous, objective, and scientific review.





#### Michigan & Standards

- Early Childhood Standards of Quality
  - Infant and Toddler Programs
  - Prekindergarten
  - Out-of-School Time/After School Programs
  - www.michigan.gov/ece
- Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCEs):
  - www.michigan.gov/glce
- High School Content Expectations
  - www.michigan.gov/highschool
- GED and ESL Content Standards
  - (ABE will be posted)
  - www.michigan.gov/adulteducation

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#### **Eligible Applicants**

- A partnership between:
  - a local educational agency applying in collaboration WITH
  - a non-profit community-based organization,
  - public agency,
  - institution of higher education, or
  - other public or private non-profit organization of demonstrated quality, OR

#### Eligible Applicants

- A partnership between:
  - A community-based organization or other public or private non-profit organization of demonstrated quality applying in collaboration with a local education agency
- A "new eligible entity" may be created, page 2 of instructions
  - New partnership with different fiduciary
  - Change in primary collaborative partners
  - New target population/service area or
  - Significant change in implementation model

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#### Potential LEA partners

- Colleges, universities, technical schools
- Head Start, Early Head Start
- Child care or preschool programs
- Literacy Councils
- Volunteer or service groups

- Faith-based organizations
- Local, county and state government agencies
- Community-based public or private nonprofit agencies
- Private schools
- Foundations, civic organizations





#### Building the Even Start Project

 Accommodation to participant's work schedule and other responsibilities



 High-quality, intensive instructional programs for all participants

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#### Building the Even Start Project Highly Qualified Staff

- Project staff whose salaries are paid partially or totally with federal Even Start funds
- All new instructional staff hired after the enactment of the law (12/21/00) must meet the qualifications

#### Instructional staff

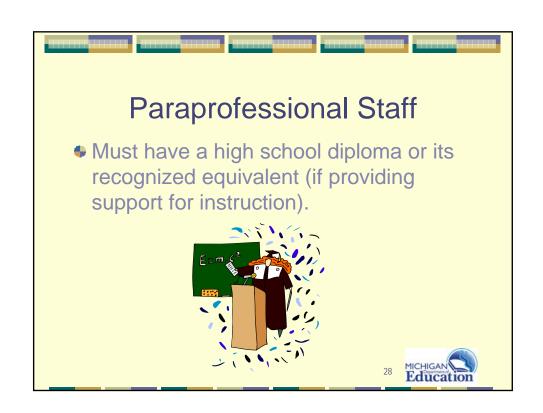
- Staff must have obtained an associate's, bachelor's, or graduate degree in a field related to
  - Early childhood education
  - Elementary or secondary school education
  - Adult education
- AND

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#### Instructional staff

• Meet state qualifications for early childhood education, elementary or secondary school education, or adult education provided as part of an Even Start program or another family literacy program.





















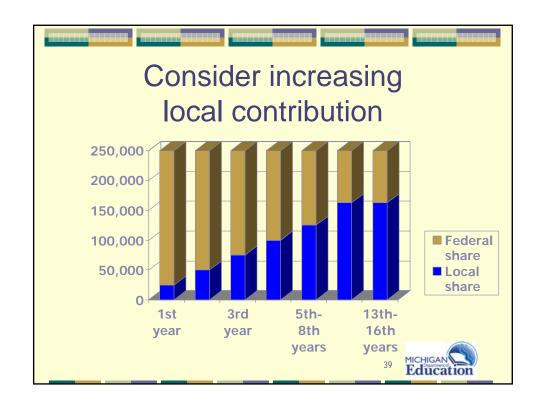


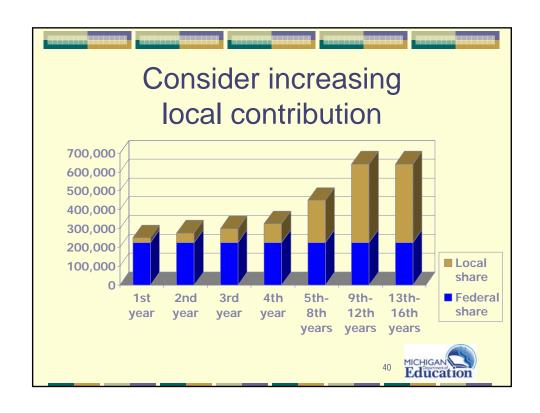
## Applying for Even Start Funds

- Specific items to be addressed are in the law.
- Items are in the "highly recommended" section of the rubrics.









#### **Review Team**

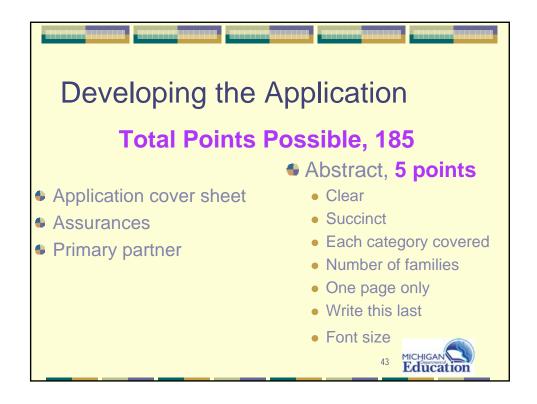
- Early childhood professional
- Adult education professional
- One with expertise in family literacy programs
- And may include:
  - Parent-child educational organization rep
  - Community-based literacy organization rep
  - Local school board member
  - Business-industry representative
  - Person involved in previous implementation

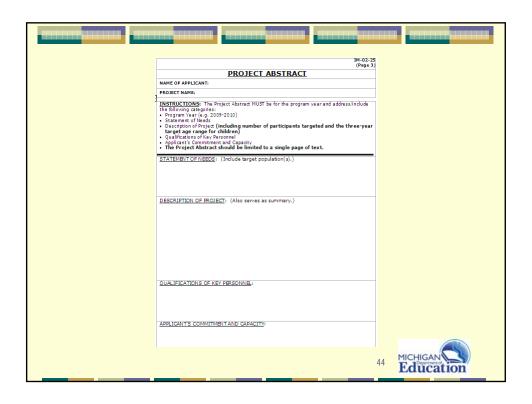


#### **Timeline**

- Application due March 20, 2009
- Reviewers mailed applications March 27
- First review session, April 17, 2009
- Second review session, May 1, 2009
- Recommendations to Superintendent by May 8, 2009
- Letters to all by June 1, 2009
- Fiscal year July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010







# Narrative Proposal— 165 points

- Address four key areas, 60 page limit
  - Need for Project
  - Collaboration
  - Proposed Project Model/Likelihood of Success
  - Evaluation of Program Success
- Attachments of relevant support documents will be considered

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## Need for the Project

#### Points Possible, 15 Plus 20

- Demographics of the area
- Target population & number of participants
- What's already happening (and not happening)
- **20 Priority Points for:** 
  - Empowerment
  - Enterprise

#### OR

High levels of need



# Coordination, Cooperation and Collaboration 35 Points Possible

- Survey of providers
- Agreements
  - At least six attached
- Other cooperative efforts described
  - Transition activities
- Building on services



## Proposed Project Model/ Likelihood of Success

Points Possible, 45 Plus 35

- Research base
- How will the Model be implemented?
  - Center-based
  - Home-based
  - Mixed
  - 3 year age range service

- Prior success
- Plan of operation; technique to serve those most in need
- Implementation Plan form
- Continuity of services



#### Proposed Project Model/ Likelihood of Success, cont'd

- Objectives and strategies for successful project; state outcomes
- Activities, services, timeline
- Personnel, staff training
- Administration plan
- Additional 20 points if application is scored in the "highly" category for past success and has at least 40 points for the rubric
- Additional 15 points if applicant successfully implemented for 4, 8, 12 or 16 years

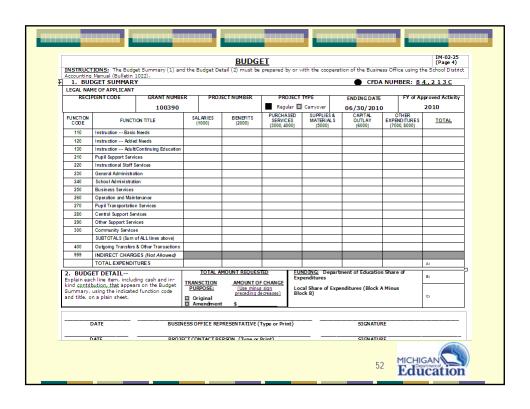
# Evaluation of Program Success 15 Points Possible Preliminary evaluation plan Success measures Strategies for continuous improvement

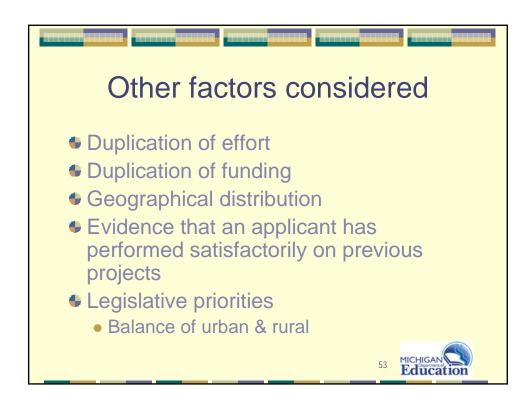
#### **Budget**

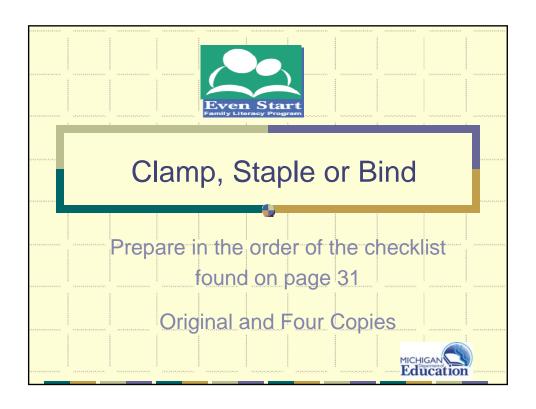
#### **Two parts, 15 Points Possible**

- Summary and Detail, 10 points
  - Accurate, signed
  - Shows expenditures & what they support; local contribution and its sources
- Narrative, 5 points
  - Discusses sources of local contribution, any anomalies in the budget
- Public School Accounting Manual Appendix of Definitions
  - http://www.michigan.gov/documents/appendix\_33974\_7.pdf









#### **Thank You and Good Luck!**

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